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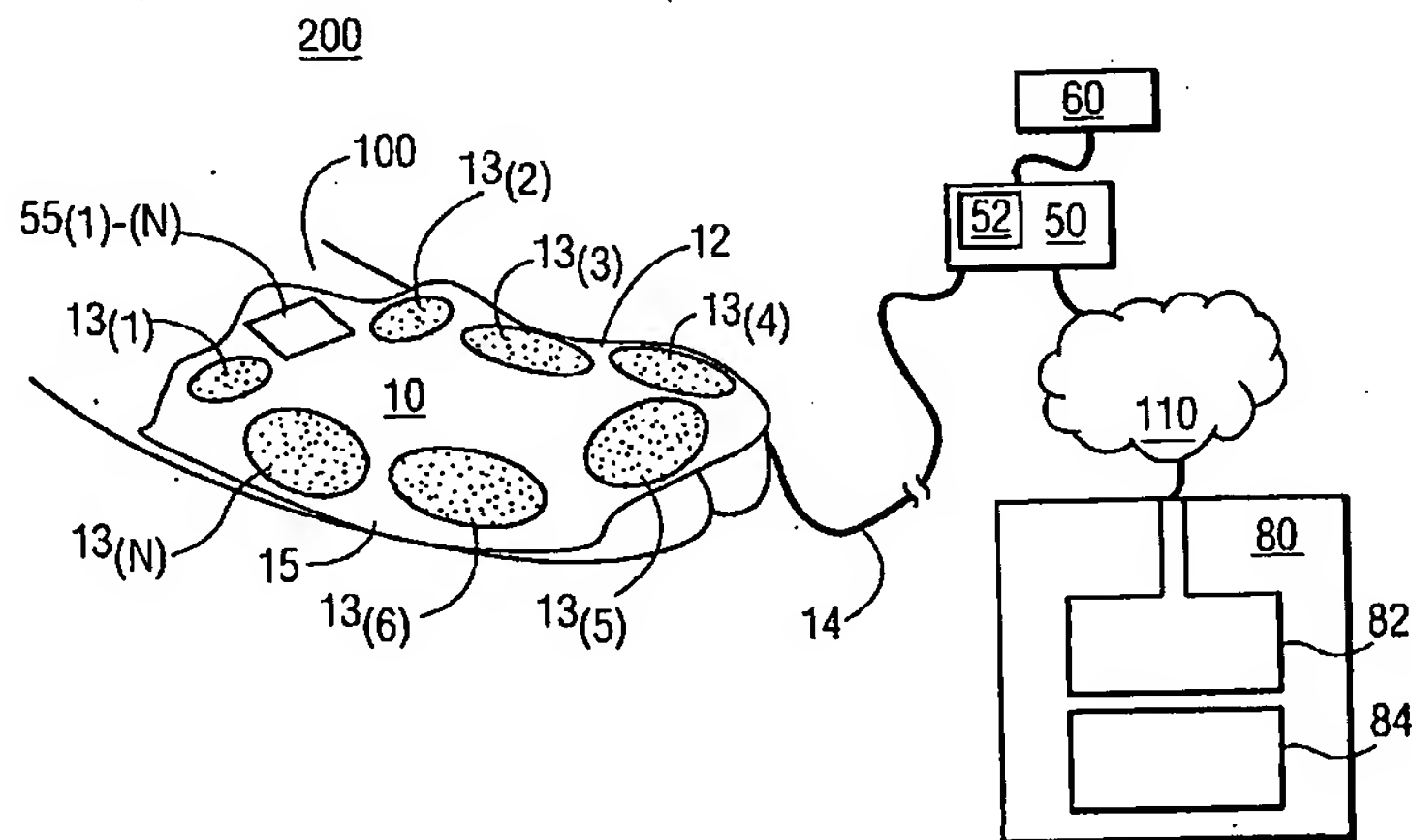
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SIMULATING TASTE SENSATIONS IN A TASTE SIMULATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A tongue plate apparatus (10) configured to lie on top of a human tongue (100). The tongue plate (10) having a lower surface configured to lie on top of a human tongue (100), the lower surface including a plurality of electronic stimulation nodes (13) operable to transmit externally generated electrical signals to stimulate sensory nerve fibers (102) within the human tongue (100) at predetermined locations. The tongue plate (10) also having an upper surface including saliva flow measurement means (55) for measuring a rate of change in the saliva flow rate of a human in response to the stimulation of the sensory nerve fibers (104). The tongue plate (10) facilitates the simulation of various taste sensations (i.e., sweet, sour, salty, bitter) in various regions of the tongue (100).



SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations* AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, *ARIPO patent* (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), *Eurasian patent* (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), *European patent* (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), *OAPI patent* (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)
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